

PAGE 01 STATE 136235 210032Z
ORIGIN IO-16

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AID-01	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00
	DODE-00	EB-01	OIGO-01	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00
	JUSE-00	L-01	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	PA-01
	PRS-01	P-01	SP-00	SR-00	SS-00	STR-01	TRSE-00
	USIE-00	RPE-01	/040R				

DRAFTED BY: DRL/HA:YMIRSKY:TPD

APPROVED BY: IO:MKIMBLE

DRL:JSHATTUCK

DRL:NELY-RAPHEL

DRL/MLA:JROSENBLATT

DRL/MLA:MALVAREZ

DRL/MLA:PWILLINGHAM

DRL/BA:RPOWERS

IO/ESA:BZWEIBEN

L/UNA:EBLOOM

L/HRR:DSTEWART

AF:DRAWSON

AF/RA:EBROWN

AF/C:KAISTON

C:JFARRAR

P:EBRIMMER

RP:MLANGE

P:DFRANK

-----498C81 210035Z /38

O 210032Z MAY 94

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 136235 210032Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 136235

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PHUM, UNHRC-1, RW

SUBJECT: SPEECH TO BE DELIVERED AT UNHRC SPECIAL SESSION
ON RWANDA

1. DELEGATION IS AUTHORIZED TO DELIVER THE FOLLOWING
SPEECH AT THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SPECIAL SESSION
ON RWANDA ON 24-25 MAY.

BEGIN TEXT:

MR. CHAIRMAN, IT IS SADLY IRONIC THAT TODAY, AFRICA DAY,

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW AUTHORITY: HARMON E KIRBY

DATE/CASE ID: 09 JAN 2008 200103014

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED

WE HAVE BEEN BROUGHT HERE BY A HORROR. THE SYSTEMATIC SLAUGHTER IN RWANDA TAXES THE IMAGINATION. SINCE APRIL 6, OVER 200,000 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN HUNTED DOWN AND KILLED IN A FRENZY OF POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED ETHNIC VIOLENCE. HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS MORE HAVE BEEN FORCED TO FLEE TO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST BRING SOLACE TO THE SUFFERING POPULATION OF RWANDA. TO THIS END, MY DELEGATION FULLY SUPPORTS AND IS ADVOCATING AN EXPANDED UNAMIR PRESENCE, WHICH WOULD PROTECT PLACES OF REFUGE AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN DIRE DANGER AS WELL AS PROVIDE

SECURITY FOR HUMANITARIAN AID TO RWANDA'S SICK AND HUNGRY. SUCH AN INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE MIGHT CURB, BY ITS WITNESS, THE HUMAN RIGHTS EXCESSES WE SEE BEING COMMITTED IN THIS VIOLENT CONFLICT. THE FORCE COMPONENT OF THIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 136235 210032Z
INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE COULD PROVIDE THE SECURITY SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING.

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS SEVERAL IMMEDIATE TASKS: TO STOP THE KILLING, ACHIEVE A CEASE-FIRE, PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN RELIEF, FACILITATE MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS AND ASSIST IN INVESTIGATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ATROCITIES. BUT THE WORLD COMMUNITY MUST ALSO CONSIDER STEPS THAT WILL PERMIT LONG-TERM RECONCILIATION, AND REPAIR THE DAMAGE THAT THIS CARNAGE HAS DONE TO THE MORAL AND LEGAL FABRIC OF OUR WORLD.

THIS IS WHY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT STRONGLY SUPPORTED HIGH COMMISSIONER AYALA LASSO'S RECOMMENDATION AND THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA'S CALL FOR THIS SPECIAL SESSION, AND WHY WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH ALL OF YOU TO DO WHAT WE MUST AT THIS CRUCIAL MOMENT. WE COMMEND THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HIS COURAGEOUS VISIT TO RWANDA EARLIER THIS MONTH.

AS THE FIRST STEPS ARE TAKEN TOWARDS THE RESTORATION OF ORDER AND PEACE IN RWANDA, WE MUST UNDERSTAND THE ORIGINS OF THIS CARNAGE AND THE IDENTITIES OF ITS PERPETRATORS. WE MUST RESIST THE TEMPTATION TO SEE THE SLAUGHTER IN RWANDA AS A CONFLICT WITH ROOTS BURIED SO DEEP IN HISTORY THAT THEY CANNOT BE REACHED BY DIPLOMACY AND STATECRAFT TODAY.

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED

TO BE SURE THERE ARE ETHNIC DIMENSIONS TO THIS CONFLICT.
YET IF YOU VISIT THE REFUGEE CAMPS WHERE RWANDANS HAVE
FOUND REFUGE BY THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS, YOU WILL SEE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 136235 210032Z
HUTUS AND TUTSIS LIVING SIDE BY SIDE, VICTIMS OF THE SAME
TRAGEDY. THIS IS, IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS A POLITICAL
CONFLICT, INFLAMED BY POLITICAL ACTORS WHO ARE EXPLOITING
UNDERLYING ETHNIC TENSIONS FOR POLITICAL ENDS. IT WAS
PEOPLE SEEKING POWER WHO TOOK TO THE AIRWAVES AND CALLED
FOR VIOLENCE AND SENT KILLING GANGS INTO VILLAGES. THE
PEOPLE OF RWANDA MUST BE ALLOWED TO RECONSTRUCT THEIR
LIVES AND SOCIETY, TO FORGIVE IF THEY CAN, CERTAINLY TO
RECONCILE THEMSELVES TO EACH OTHER. BUT THOSE RESPONSIBLE
FOR THIS CATASTROPHE MUST BE IDENTIFIED AND HELD
ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS. INDEED, ONLY IF THEY ARE
HELD ACCOUNTABLE WILL THE RWANDAN PEOPLE BE ABLE TO
RESTORE SOCIAL HARMONY IN THEIR COUNTRY.

IN ADDITION TO THE VITAL TASK OF PROTECTING THOSE STILL
EXPOSED TO VIOLENCE, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST
INVESTIGATE AND ASSIGN RESPONSIBILITY FOR THESE
ATROCITIES, THESE MASSIVE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS,
BECAUSE THE SLAUGHTER IN RWANDA IS, ABOVE ALL, A HUMAN
RIGHTS CATASTROPHE. IT IS THE ULTIMATE EXPRESSION OF
POLITICAL AMBITION UNRESTRAINED BY LAW OR PROCESS, OF
ETHNIC TENSION AND RIVALRY EXPLOITED FOR CYNICAL AND
MURDEROUS ENDS, AND A DIRECT AND POWERFUL CHALLENGE TO THE
MOST BASIC, FUNDAMENTAL STANDARDS OF HUMANKIND. IF WE
FAIL TO ACT, IT WILL SET A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT FOR EVERY
REGION OF THE WORLD WHERE ETHNICALLY DIVERSE PEOPLES TRY
TO COEXIST.

WE NOTE THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL, THE UN HIGH
COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, GENERAL DALLAIRE AND HIS STAFF
AND FORCES, THE UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 05 STATE 136235 210032Z
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE BOOH-BOOH HAVE ALREADY MADE
SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO ADDRESS THIS MULTIFACETED
DISASTER. WE MUST ALSO COMMEND THE EFFORTS OF THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS IN PROTECTING
CIVILIANS AND DISPLACED PERSONS INSIDE RWANDA.

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED

THE U.S. WILL CONTINUE TO DO OUR PART. WE ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO JOIN US IN DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS WITH BOTH SIDES AND IN SUPPORT OF THE EFFORTS BY GOVERNMENTS OF THE REGION TO RESURRECT THE ARUSHA PROCESS. WE STRONGLY SUPPORT THE UN RESOLUTION PLACING AN ARMS EMBARGO ON RWANDA AS WELL AS AUTHORIZING EXPANSION OF UNAMIR TO FACILITATE BRINGING HUMANITARIAN AID AND PROTECTION TO THREATENED CIVILIAN POPULATIONS. SINCE THE TRAGIC CRASH THAT TOOK THE LIVES OF PRESIDENTS HABYARIMANA AND NTARYAMIRA, THE UNITED STATES HAS PROVIDED NEARLY DOLLARS 50 MILLION IN HUMANITARIAN RELIEF TO THE SUBREGION, ALONG WITH REPEATED U.S. AIRLIFTS OF AID SUPPLIES. WE CALL ON ALL GOVERNMENTS TO CONSIDER WHAT THEY CAN DO IN SUPPORT OF HUMANITARIAN RELIEF OPERATIONS.

IN ADDITION TO POLITICAL AND HUMANITARIAN ACTION, HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS AND PROGRAMS MUST BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF ANY AND EVERY UN ACTION TAKEN ON RWANDA, BECAUSE ONLY BY A RESOLUTE FOCUS ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS DIMENSION OF THIS HORROR, OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF EVERY RWANDAN MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD WILL THE PARTIES, AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY BE ABLE TO FORGE A WORKABLE END TO THE FIGHTING THAT WILL CARRY OVER INTO THE FUTURE. HIGH COMMISSIONER AYALA LASSO'S ROLE AS COORDINATOR OF HUMAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 06 STATE 136235 210032Z
RIGHTS ISSUES THROUGHOUT THE UN SYSTEM IS OF COURSE VITAL
IN THIS REGARD.

SPECIFICALLY, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL RAPPOREUR, WHO, WITH THE AID OF THE UN'S THEMATIC RAPPOREURS, WILL INVESTIGATE THE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN RWANDA, AND REPORT FINDINGS BACK TO THE COMMISSION WITHIN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE COMMISSION TO AUTHORIZE ADVISORY SERVICES FOR RWANDA AS SOON AS THE SITUATION PERMITS.

WE ALSO CALL FOR THE IMMEDIATE DISPATCH OF A TEAM OF HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORS OPERATING UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UN. NOT ONLY WILL THE MONITORS GATHER INFORMATION ON THE GROUND; THEIR VERY PRESENCE WILL FACILITATE THE NEGOTIATIONS, INASMUCH AS PARTIES WILL MORE WILLINGLY LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY ARE UNDER INTERNATIONAL SCRUTINY.

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED

GATHERING INFORMATION IS ONLY THE FIRST STEP. OUR GOAL MUST BE INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR ROSS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS, IN RWANDA AND ELSEWHERE, NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AS WE SIT HERE TODAY, OVER A QUARTER OF A MILLION REFUGEES FROM RWANDA ARE HUDDLED IN TANZANIA ALONE. CORPSES STILL FLOAT DAILY DOWN THE KAGERA RIVER. WE MUST SEIZE THIS MOMENT TO REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO THE UNIVERSALITY OF HUMAN RIGHTS, TO THE RENUNCIATION OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND ETHNIC HATRED. WE MUST FIX
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 07 STATE 136235 210032Z
RESPONSIBILITY ON THOSE WHO HAVE DIRECTED THESE ACTS OF VIOLENCE. IN SO DOING WE CAN TRANSFORM REVENGE INTO JUSTICE, AFFIRM THE RULE OF LAW, AND BRING THIS HORRIBLE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE TO A MERCIFUL CLOSE.

END TEXT

2. NOTE: THIS TEXT, PENDING APPROVAL FROM THE SECRETARY, MAY BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE REFERENCES TO ACTS OF GENOCIDE. PLEASE CONSULT WITH DEPARTMENT BEFORE DELIVERING SPEECH.
ENDNOTE.

CHRISTOPHER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

DECONTROLLED/UNCLASSIFIED